Development of Horticulture

7. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
MISS MABEL REBELLO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) as the development of horticulture can bring in significant enhancement in the nutritional status of tribal and other weaker section, what steps Government have undertaken to further this objective;

(b) whether it is the true that a few districts in the country have been selected for special attention; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing following schemes in IX Plan on the development of horticulture in the country which can enhance nutritional status of tribal and other weaker section;

1. Integrated Development of Tropical Temperate and Arid Fruits
2. Integrated Development of cashewnuts and cocoa
3. Horticulture development through plasticulture intervention
4. Development of medicinal and aromatic plants
5. Promotion of bee-keeping
6. Development of commercial floriculture
7. Development of mushroom
8. Integrated programme for development of spices
9. Integrated Development of Vegetables including root and tuber crops
10. Integrated development of coconut
11. Programme of National Horticulture Board for post harvest management
12. Integrated development of horticulture in tribal and hilly areas

13. Human Resource Development for Horticulture

To provide focussed attention, a pilot project "Integrated Development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly Areas" with an outlays of Rs. 14.50 crores is being implemented. The scheme envisages compact area development approach for crop production, Transfer of Technology, Post harvest Management and Marketing etc. in the 6 selected tribal/hilly districts viz. Adilabad (Andhra Pradesh), Bastar (Madhya Pradesh), Keonjhar (Orissa), Ranchi (Bihar), Panchmahal (Gujarat) and Almora (Uttar Pradesh) of the country. The scheme will be implemented through State Designated Agencies i.e. State Departments, Cooperatives, Local Bodies, autonomous organisation or NGO's of repute and credibility.

Plan Allocation for Agriculture

8. MISS MABEL REBELLO:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the plan allocations for agriculture has fallen as compared to the previous plan period; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and steps Government are envisaging thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No, Sir. There has been an increase in public sector outlay to agriculture and allied activities (including irrigation and flood control) from Rs. 54992.50 crores during the Eighth Five Year Plan to' Rs. 97882 crores during the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(b) Does not arise.